

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of:)
Kenji ITOH et al.)
Serial No. 09/412,510)
Filed: October 5, 1999)
For: PROCESS FOR TREATING A SUBSTRATE)
WITH A PLASMA)

JAN 14 2005

Examiner: Marianne L. Padgett
Group Art Unit: 1762

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

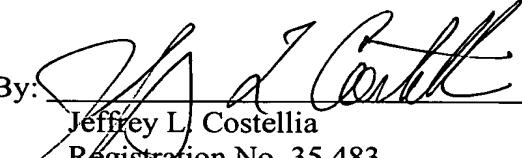
In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/438,581 was cited as the basis of a provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection in the Office Action dated March 29, 2004 in the subject application, and considered by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants wish to bring to the Examiner's attention a new Office Action that was mailed in the '581 application on December 23, 2004. In addition, Applications wish to note that U.S. Patent No. 5,275,665 issued to Okazaki et al., which is listed on form PTO-892 of the Office Action included herewith, was previously cited in the above application on June 29, 2004.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initial a copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees connected with this filing which may be required now, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-2380, (740756-2045).

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
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Registration No. 35,483

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<i>Complete if Known</i> OFFICE OF PETITIONS	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	09/412,510
Sheet	1	of	1	Filing Date	October 5, 1999
				First Named Inventor	Kenji ITOH et al.
				Art Unit	1762
				Examiner Name	Marianne Padgett
				Attorney Docket Number	740756-2045

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² <i>(if known)</i>	Kind Code ³ Country Code ³ Number ⁴ <i>(if known)</i>			
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Kind Code ³	Country Code ³ Number ⁴ <i>(if known)</i>				
							AB

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.					T ²
		U.S. Application Serial No. 09/438,581; Filed: 11/12/1999; Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al. Amendment Filed 9/30/2004 and Office Action dated 12/23/2004					

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.